

NATIONAL

To help farmers solve age-long problems

Jordan Valley to have research centre

By Dina Matar
Special to the Jordan Times

UNDER AN AGREEMENT signed in September between the Ministry of Agriculture and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Jordan Valley will soon have its own centre for applied agricultural research.

USAID will provide \$5 million worth of technical and advisory assistance, as well as American experts to train Jordanians in the field. The Ministry of Agriculture will provide the centre's offices, and will recruit efficient and trained staff to man the research centre.

The first to be built in the Jordan Valley, the centre will help farmers solve some of the prob-

lems they have been facing over the years. For a long time, farmers in the Jordan Valley have been utilising old-fashioned techniques in farming and irrigating the vast areas of arable land, and the results have not always been satisfactory. Last year, tomato production in the Jordan Valley was crippled due to recurrent raids by a new type of crop killer, the whitefly, which attacked the

plants viciously and left no way to salvage the crops. To date, the farmers are still lamenting their luck.

Besides the seemingly invincible white fly, other pests have also attacked the plants, causing land erosion. The situation is further aggravated by continuous application of improper irrigation methods in the area, and excessive spraying of pesticides hazardous

to health. Although some say that the research centre would only be a dent in solving the farmers' problems, it would undoubtedly help overcome some problems in the Jordan Valley.

According to Miss Lois Richards, USAID deputy director in Jordan, the centre would lay particular emphasis on pest control and soil, water and plant management.

The project itself has been in the works for two years, but it gathered steam only last February and in July, a team of agricultural experts came over from Washington State University to assess the situation in the Jordan Valley and to work on the different aspects of the project.

"The main subjects of the research will be vegetables and fruits," Miss Richards told the Jordan Times. "Since these crops would be contributing to an increase in production in Jordan, and would improve Jordan's income from its agricultural exports in the long run."

The research centre will have three sites from which to carry out its activities in the Jordan Valley, and Jordanian farmers will be included in the project all along.

"The centre will always maintain a close cooperation with the farmers, since they should be the sole beneficiaries of the project," Miss Richards pointed out.

The Jordan Valley has had some laboratories set up in the area for similar research purposes. The soon-to-be-built research centre however, will not duplicate previous efforts. On the contrary, explained Miss Richards, it would draw on the experience of the other laboratories and try to find

some solutions to the problems of agriculture.

Solving the problems of the Jordan Valley will take a long time. But Miss Richards seems optimistic that once the problems are identified, they would be tackled and solved quickly. "Jordan has a huge reservoir of talent, and its people are very cooperative. I am sure that the project would go ahead with very few problems," she said. "What we have to do right away is work out some adaptable solutions to the existing problems in the Jordan Valley, since it is not that the problems are insoluble, but they need specific solutions," she added.

The Jordan Valley has been the primary area of work for USAID since 1975, and most programmes have been geared towards water management and developing water resources and supplies. Some of the work, carried out with the cooperation of the Jordan Val-

ley Authority and the Jordan Valley Farmers Association, has been mostly concentrating on developing crops programmes in the area. Other programmes were directed towards water management and using different irrigation techniques.

Besides providing technical advice, USAID has been going ahead with its training programmes. In 1981, about 130 Jordanians have been sent for training courses in the United States.

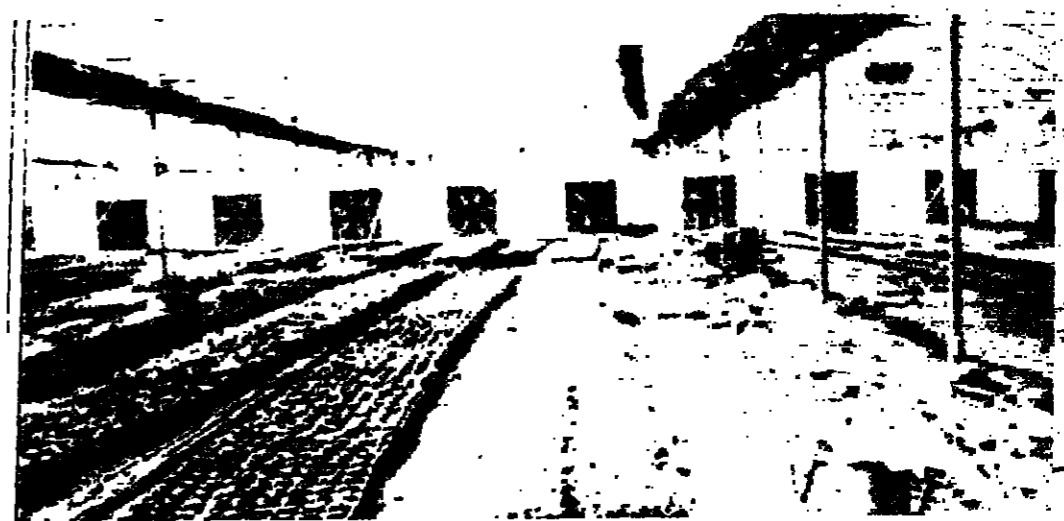
USAID has also tried its hands at health and educational activities, in addition to its basic financial and technical aid in the agricultural field. During the past fiscal year, USAID donated some \$10 million for various programmes in Jordan. In fiscal 1982, USAID plans to allocate \$20 million to boost its programmes in Jordan, but the sum needs to be approved by the State Department, Miss Richards said. In 1981,

USAID had some \$112 million tied down in eight funds for ongoing projects in Jordan. USAID officials hope they can get more. "What hinders us is a lack of funds, because we get our budget from the United States," Richards said. "We would like to do so much more for Jordan, its people, who have shown a great deal of sensibility in terms of improvement and acceptance change," she added.

Miss Richards said that Jordan has used foreign assistance very well and the general success of the many projects around the country is a tangible sign of improvement in the economy. She added that Jordanians have been able to take advantage of opportunities presented to them to improve their conditions. "I just hope that the research centre would eventually solve the problems in the Jordan Valley," she concluded.



Most programmes in the Jordan Valley have been geared toward water management and developing water resources and supplies.



The projected agricultural research centre will lay particular emphasis, among other things, on plant management.

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NATIONAL

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TCC chief back from Athens visit

AMMAN, Nov. 14 (Petra) — Telecommunications Corporation Director General Mohammad Shahed Ismail returned to Amman this evening at the end of a visit to Athens. He attended the opening there of a new automated telephone exchange which was installed by a French firm, similar to one that is expected to be installed by the French in Amman soon in accordance with a bilateral agreement.

Mohammad congratulates King

AMMAN, Nov. 14 (Petra) — His Highness Prince Mohammad today sent a cable of good wishes to His Majesty King Hussein on his 46th birthday anniversary. In his cable Prince Mohammad wished King Hussein continued success in the leadership of the Jordanian people and in achieving progress and prosperity for his country.

Zarqa merchants urged to give

ZARQA, Nov. 14 (Petra) — Zarqa Chamber of Commerce President Ibrahim Takiuddin today called on the city's merchants and businessmen to offer contributions to the national committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons, saying that any donations would be used to implement projects for the benefit of handicapped people. Mr. Takiuddin said that the chamber had, in

September, collected cash and in kind contributions to the national committee, but he did not give any details.

Orthodox panel donates JD 1,000

AMMAN, Nov. 14 (Petra) — The Orthodox cultural and educational committee has donated JD 1,000 to a campaign to benefit the disabled run by the Jordanian national committee for the International Year of the Disabled. The money collected in this campaign will be used to buy special apparatus for handicapped people.

NCC panel sets meeting

AMMAN, Nov. 14 (Petra) — The National Consultative Council's committee entrusted with studying the Salt social "manifesto" will meet Tuesday to resume its consideration of the document.

Town awards pump station job

JERASH, Nov. 14 (Petra) — Souf Municipality has awarded a tender to a local firm for the construction of a water pumping station to supply water to the town, at a cost of JD 20,000. Work on the project, which will make available 30 cubic metres of water an hour, will begin in the coming month.



National Consultative Council President Ahmad Al Tarawneh (far left) and the NCC delegation await their London flight at Amman Airport on Saturday (Petra photo)

Tarawneh leads NCC delegation on visit to U.K.

AMMAN, Nov. 14 (Petra) — National Consultative Council (NCC) President Ahmad Al Tarawneh left for the United Kingdom today on a visit at the invitation of the British government.

Tarawneh will meet with a number of members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, as well as leading political figures.

Mr. Tarawneh is accompanied on the visit by NCC members Kha-

lil Al Salem, Abdul Majid Hijazi, Marwan Al Humoud, Mansour Al Batayneh and Khaled Abdul Nabi. NCC Secretary Adnan Ba'youm accompanies the delegation.

2 new stamps mark King's birthday

AMMAN, Nov. 14 (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications today issued two commemorative stamps to mark His Majesty King Hussein's 46th birthday anniversary.

One of the stamps portrays the blind and the other, the International Year of Disabled Persons.

The issuance of the two stamps on the occasion is designed to have great significance and to remind citizens of King Hussein's endeavours in caring for handicapped people. Communications Minister Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben said on the occasion.

New Jordan envoy visits Qatari heir

DOHA, Nov. 14 (Petra) — Qatari heir apparent Sheikh Hamad Ibn Khalifa yesterday lauded the strong brotherly ties binding his country with Jordan, and praised His Majesty King Hussein and Qatari ruler Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani for their efforts to serve the peoples of both countries.

He was speaking upon receiving the new Jordanian ambassador to Qatar Mr. Khaled 'Ubeidat. Sheikh Hamad praised the role of Jordanians in the development of his country.

ARE YOU...

Staging a play? Putting on a concert? Delivering a lecture? Organising any non-profit activity open to the public?

Do you have any kind of event to announce to the Jordan Times' readers? The What's Going On listing is always open to receive entries, preferably written ones, in English or Arabic... free of charge.

Entries should be received at the Jordan Times office, by hand or by mail, at least 24 hours before the scheduled event. Let us know!

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

* The Alia Art Gallery presents the Contemporary Masters exhibition.

* The Jordan Artists' Association presents an exhibition of paintings by Yasser Duwaik, at the association centre in Jabal Luwibdeh, opposite the French Cultural Centre. The exhibition opens at 5 p.m.

* Paintings by Yussef Husseiny, in the lobby of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

Film

* The French Cultural Centre presents "RAK", a film by Charles Belmont (sub-titled in Arabic) at 7:30 p.m.

Baghdad conference urges support to administrative development

AMMAN, Nov. 14 (Petra) — Jordan's delegation to the second conference on administrative development in the Arab World returned to Amman from Baghdad last night.

Participants in the four-day meeting discussed several subjects pertaining to the development of Arab administrative systems and human resources.

The participants called on Arab states to enact legislation and

administrative bylaws that would serve the requirements of economic and social development in the Arab World, and called on Arab governments to support the Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences, which organised the meeting, to help it with its various tasks and programmes.

Another recommendation called for promoting and highlighting the role of women in development, and offering them opportunities for training and employment in various institutions; and also urged governments to facilitate the travel of Arab workers among Arab countries.

Jordan's delegation to the meeting was led by Mr. Ali Khreis, director of the Civil Service Commission.

American Women lend a 'Helping Hand'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A pair of slacks which originally sold for JD 15 is on sale at The Helping Hand, the American Women of Amman's thrift shop, for 50 fils. Second-hand children's clothing, men's suits and sports clothes, sweaters, T-shirts, household goods — all in serviceable condition — are on sale, most of them for only a few piasters.

"Ladies' slacks are not a fast-moving item," said Mrs. Donna King, a member of the volunteer staff of the shop, as she removed over a dozen of them from hangers and stacked them on shelves. The greatest demand is for clothing for children and infants.

Mrs. Louise Carty, who has directed the work of the shop since it opened last April, told the Jordan Times that it serves three purposes. All of its profits go to the needy of Jordan; it provides a service for shoppers, and it is a worthwhile project for which members of the American Women of Amman can work. It aims, however, at an international clientele of customers, and donors, of good, used merchandise.

"Our problem is that we are not getting well known by word of mouth," Mrs. Carty said. "We have about 15 regular customers who appear twice a week, but they are not spreading the word about our services."

"People new to Jordan can find few household items and clothing to help get themselves settled. Anyone visiting the shop can see for themselves the bargains they can find here," she added.

New items for sale are copies of the still-useful "Welcome to Amman" directory published by the American Women of Amman in 1976, now selling for a half dinar. Hand-knotted rugs produced by the Rural Development Society are also available.

Mrs. Mildred Huebner will direct work at The Helping Hand when Mrs. Carty leaves Jordan soon. Other volunteer workers include Mmes. Peggy Richley, Sharon Duke, Sharon Roberts, Judy Abu Jaber, Gloria Thomas and Ghada Muasher. The shop is licensed by the Ministry of Social Development.

To reach The Helping Hand, take the major thoroughfare from the Interior Ministry Circle going towards Firas Circle. Turn left immediately after passing the street island planted with trees. Follow this street, which is named Akka, for four blocks, until it turns into an impassable alley. The thrift shop is at the end of this alley. Turn either right or left, and go around the block, to reach it.

The Helping Hand is open six hours a week, on Thursday and Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Top left, woollens for winter are piled under a hand-knotted rug from the Rural Development Society displayed on the wall of The Helping Hand, the American Women of Amman's Jabal Hussein thrift shop; top right, Mrs. Donna King, a volunteer worker, carries a load of merchandise into the shop, which is



licensed by the Ministry of Social Development as a charity outlet; bottom, Mrs. Louise Carty admires a second-hand T-shirt on display, which she later bought for her husband (photos by Marianne Pearson)



Social Security investments top 11,400,000

AMMAN, Nov. 14 (Petra) — The Social Security Corporation's (SSC) total investments in Jordanian projects have reached a figure of JD 11,421,000, according to an SSC spokesman.

A total of JD 9,457,710 has been invested in Jordanian projects, the spokesman said, and most of the rest was used to extend loans to Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline and the Jordan Hotels and Resthouses Corporation.

A sum of JD 710,209,643 was invested in land and the purchase of buildings and other property.

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On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday anniversary, the Amman Chamber of Industry will hold an industrial fair at Yarmouk University.

The Chamber of Industry calls on the participation in the fair to bring their exhibits to the hall between Nov. 14 and Nov. 18. The chamber will contact transport companies running between Amman and Irbid to supply transport for visitors from Nov. 22-27. The grand opening will take place on Nov. 21.

The Amman Chamber of Industry believes that encouraging national industries is a sacred duty.

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MIDDLE EAST

Palmyra: road to the ancient way of life

It requires no effort to recapture Palmyra's splendour. The ruins of graceful, colonnaded streets and a magnificent monumental arch, the crumbling remains of a theatre and a temple dedicated to Bel, all testify to its glorious past. Isolated in a desert setting dominated by the looming presence of an old Arab castle on a nearby hill, Palmyra, a romantic vision in the clear, sunlit air, inevitably stirs the imagination; even seasoned tourists can instantly visualise the great caravans that, centuries ago, brought silks and spices and precious stones from Arabia and distant Cathay.

By John Muaro

It was because the caravan trade that Palmyra flourished during the third and second centuries B.C. Already prosperous, Palmyra became a Roman client state in the time of Mark Antony; about 60 years later, in the reign of Tiberius, it became a tributary and then, in A.D. 212, a colony. Eventually, Palmyra also became a valuable ally and Odenathus II, Palmyra's king, was appointed commander of the Roman armies in Syria, under whose charge they were able to recapture Mesopotamia from the Sassanians and extend their authority across the Euphrates as far as Ctesiphon. It was not Odenathus, however, but his widow Zenobia who assured Palmyra its prominent place in ancient history. Unhappy under the authority of Rome, she took the title "Augusta" and sent her armies to occupy Egypt and parts of Asia Minor while Emperor Claudius Gothicus was preoccupied with problems closer to home: the invading Goths, then attacking Rome from the north. Initially successful, Zenobia and her son Vaballathus then went too far. Vaballathus assumed the title of Augustus, and had coins struck with his own image and that

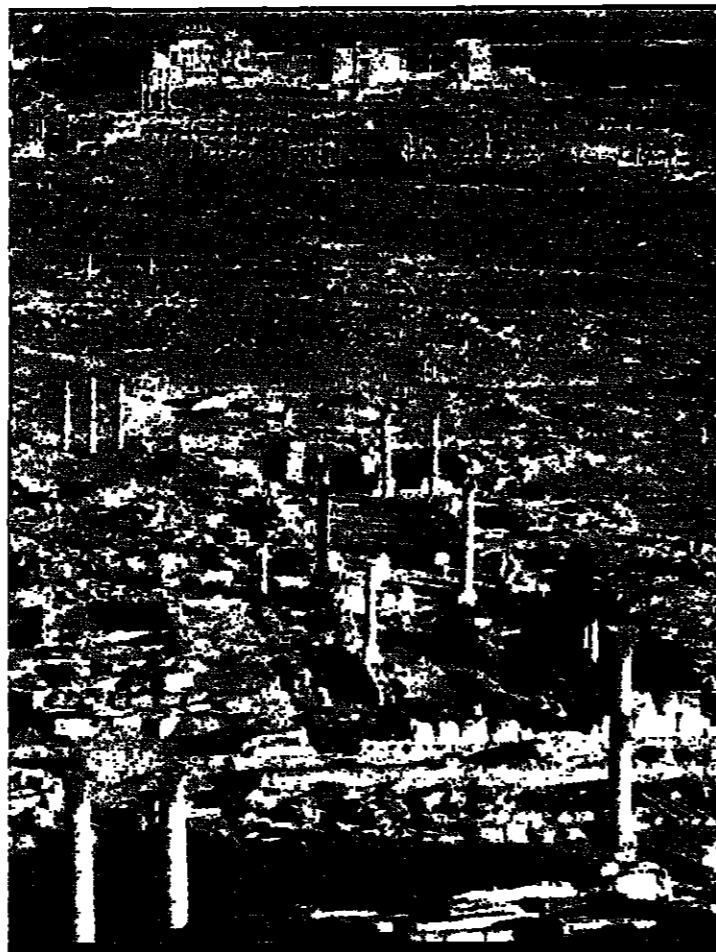
of his mother — an affront that Claudius' successor, Aurelian, could not accept. The Roman armies swept into the city, ransacked it, captured Zenobia and brought her to Rome, where, bound in golden chains, she was made to march behind the Emperor's triumphal chariot through the streets of the city. In the history of Palmyra, that was a turning point. With Zenobia in Rome, where she married a Roman senator, Palmyra's fortunes declined rapidly. And although it enjoyed a brief revival under the Abbasid caliphate, Palmyra never again attained anything like that splendour that characterised it during the time of Odenathus and Zenobia. Not surprisingly, Palmyra's rise and fall have attracted the attention of many historians and amateur philosophers, who have contemplated the city's dramatic reversal of fortune, and sought moral lessons among its still impressive ruins. Among them was Robert Wood or "Palmyra" Wood as he came to be known an Englishman born in 1717, who visited Palmyra in 1751. Best known as a politician, Wood served as under secretary to prime minister William Pitt from 1756 until 1763 and was also sec-

retary to the Treasury during the administration of Lord Bute. But Wood was also a student of ancient history, sharing with his more famous contemporary Edward Gibbon an interest in the rise and fall of great nations. And to Wood the story of Palmyra was a portent of the future of Great Britain. According to Wood, who published The Ruins of Palmyra in 1753, it was the traveller's duty to analyse the forces which led to the rise and fall of past civilisations, rather than simply describe the splendour of their monuments. Despite its splendid engravings, therefore, Wood's book is less significant for its description of Palmyra's ruins than for its brief, but

now eerie prophecies with regard to Britain. A cultivated, 18th-century Englishman, Wood, in an essay on Homer published in 1765, said that true knowledge can come only after one has had an opportunity to evaluate one's own society in relation to others. Homer is great, Wood observed, partly because he was a traveller, and therefore able to place knowledge of his own culture in its proper perspective. It was in this spirit that Wood, accompanied by two Oxford scholars, James Dawkins and John Bourcier, and an Italian artist, Borra, journeyed to Palmyra, and then to Baalbek, — which led to publication of The Ruins of Baal-

bec in 1757. He hoped that his investigations might lead him to a better understanding of his own country. To Wood, Palmyra achieved a high level of civilisation as a result of its own unaided efforts, as did England, rather than through contact with supposedly superior cultures. Although it was widely supposed, he wrote that Palmyra's splendour came about as a result of Rome's beneficence rather than by the enterprise and industry of the city's own inhabitants, in fact was entirely wrong. The city rose to prominence, he went on, by capitalising on its advantages as an important stopping place on the trade routes from the East. It declined only after it had become a tributary of Rome. Suggesting other similarities between Palmyra's situation and that of Great Britain, Wood noted that just as the sea contributed to Britain's "riches and defence," so the desert contributed to Palmyra's: both states profited from their strategic position in terms of commerce and their ability to ward off potential invaders. Like Great Britain, Wood argued, Palmyra had been able to prosper as a result of its independence from surrounding nations. After it was absorbed by Rome, the Palmyrae were reduced to living "idly on as much as Aurelian had spared", a situation which sapped their morale and weakened their resolve. There was a lesson here for his own country, Wood thought. In Wood's eyes, another factor in Palmyra's success was its natural environment, a climate not unlike that of classical Greece. True, one could not explain Britain's cultural heritage in terms of similar climatic conditions, but some argue that the energies of Western Europe do stem from a brisk climate. Besides, there were other parallels. Like Palmyra during the time of its greatness, Britain was blessed with a form of government that was essentially sound. In particular, Britain had a constitution which, in the words of Wood's Scottish contemporary, philosopher David Hume, was the envy of her neighbours. "a noble fabric" that had been raised "by the labour of so many centuries, repaired at the expense of so many millions, and cemented by such a profusion of blood." Neverthe-

less, Wood argued, if Britain fell victim to the dissensions of the age, it might suffer the fate of Palmyra, and he warned his fellow countrymen that they should not allow the pressure of the moment to pervert the noble simplicity of their constitution. What perhaps prompted Wood to issue his warning was his fear that the complacency of his age might lull his countrymen into a state of pious acquiescence, and so Britain might suffer the same fate as Palmyra. The years between the War of the Austrian Succession (1740-1748) and the Seven Years War of 1756 to 1763 have been called the most placid of the century, a time when Britain felt powerful and secure. But, as Wood realised, and as is investigation of Palmyra seemed to confirm, such periods of glory could be short-lived, and the British should be wary of the misfortunes that frequently attended nations that became too self-confident. On the other hand, Wood believed that once a great civilisation had established itself, it was unlikely to die. Palmyra, he believed, could still regain its past glory, since the basic conditions that had promoted its rise to power were still present: the caravan trade and the desert. Such optimistic predictions were, of course, never realised; today, most of the traffic flowing toward Palmyra is composed of busloads of tourists who come to view its ruins. To Robert Wood, today's tourists, plodding resignedly among the stones with the same quiet veneration that visitors accord museums, would be an affront. To Wood, Palmyra was much more than a museum. It was evidence of a past civilisation, and its stones bore messages of value to all mankind. Wood believed that the true traveller inspected the ruins in order to assess the forces that influenced their development and to learn something of value in relation to his own. To Wood, ancient ruins were the tangible remains of the past way of life and it was the duty of the interested observer to examine them for clues which might account for their greatness and subsequent decline. Like most modern archaeologists, Wood realised that the stones themselves were less important than what they signified.



The splendour of Palmyra lives on (Aramcoworld photo)



"If I cut it those poor leaves will have that much further to fall."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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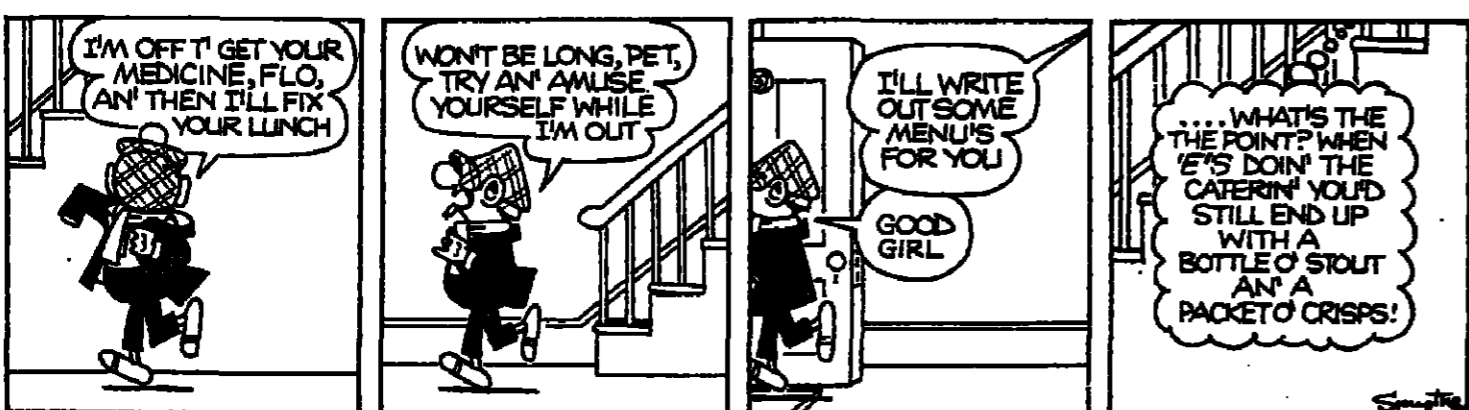
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FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, NOV. 15, 1981

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Early in the day there are many deceptive influences in effect, but if you hold steady to the principles you believe in all turns to your advantage. Make practical plans for the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have some limitations that you need to do something about if you want to advance in career activities.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't rely on friends during the day since they have problems of their own. Evening brings the aid you need.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Show your ability in handling civic matters to which you are committed and this add to your present prestige.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) The right time to use practical methods in the handling of a private anxiety. Take time to engage in favorite hobby.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Your intuition is now working to your advantage. Evening is the best time for solving problems of a business nature.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Not a good day for investments since there could be a hitch connected with them. Don't let tensions mount.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Plan the new week's activities wisely so that you don't waste precious time and energy later in the week.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have certain tasks to take care of before you should engage in the recreation you desire. Take no risks with your health.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get busy at the tasks that you can't do during the work week. You can improve conditions by using your willpower.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Planning the future wisely is a good way to spend part of this day. Take time to improve your surroundings.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be sure you don't commit yourself to added responsibilities that will be difficult for you to handle in the future.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get rid of that feeling of discontent early in the day or you could make a mistake that you later would regret.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will require the right kind of discipline so that the mind and energy will be channeled in the right direction. Religious training is important early in life. Teach your progeny to work with the hands. "The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword

By T. Richard Mora

ACROSS

1 Ejects
6 White
10 Cooking bowls
14 Puck
15 Bangs and locks
16 USSR city
17 At — for words
18 To boot
19 Turner of the screen
20 Cardinal's symbol
22 About-face
24 Social org.
26 Santa Claus aid

27 Looked jaggers
31 Machinate
36 Kind of bean
37 Hand-me-down
39 Kind of energy
40 Past masters
41 Pic
43 Filled pancake, for short
44 Lay eyes on
45 12-point type
47 Hackman of films
48 Remain in residence

50 Tibia and femur
52 Make a face
54 Native of Yugoslavia
55 Crackerjack
60 Experience in memory
64 Tortoise's pigeon
65 Flood
67 Helping act
68 Sommer
69 902
70 Smirk
71 Polanski film
72 Poetic times
73 Royal Russians

11 Verbal
12 Gambling game
13 Hit
21 Guitar sound
23 Cpl.'s charges
25 Greek fabulist
27 Tumbler
28 Lawful
29 The end
30 Old Nick
32 Bugaboos
33 Burstyn of movies
34 Bangor's state
35 Coastal birds
38 Cubes
42 Gung-ho
45 Grant's
49 Soupcon
51 Penitents
53 Moses story
55 Dwarf
56 Sharpen
58 Revolution-ary Nathan
59 Put on weight
61 Thought
62 Sweeney
63 Goes wrong
66 Towel word

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DOWN

1 Box
2 Mound
3 Moses story
abbr.
4 Indecisive
5 TV street name
6 Cry of triumph
7 Molely
8 Bridal path
9 Cooks, in a way
10 Dire poverty

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Olszowski: No partnership

WARSAW, Nov. 14 (A.P.) — A hardline Polish Communist Party official has warned the independent Solidarity labour federation not to press its demand for a partnership in the government's economic planning and management.

Stefan Olszowski, a member of the party's ruling politburo, told the youth newspaper Sztandar Młodych yesterday that partnership with Solidarity in managing the economy "would be tantamount to placing Poland on the brink of civil war or on the brink of some other, exceptionally dangerous situation."

The government and union agreed to open talks Tuesday on the union's role in the efforts to reconstruct the near-bankrupt economy. Mr. Olszowski urged Solidarity to accept a consultative role within a government-controlled front of national accord.

Another Solidarity demand — greater access to the state-run media — was criticised yesterday by the head of the broadcast media, Wladyslaw Loranc. "These concepts are exceptional and unknown in any other country," Loranc said. "Trade unions running T.V. — would such a thing be possible in the West?"

He told a news conference that Solidarity's demand "would dis-

turb and harm the existing model of state-operated news media."

Meanwhile, thousands of workers ended strikes throughout the country Thursday and Friday. But others continued.

Students at the Radom engineering school, 96 kilometres south of Warsaw, were in the 19th day of a sit-in protesting the disputed election of the school rector.

At a sugar plant in Northern

Torun, Polish Radio said about 120 farmers occupied the plant's management building to protest legislation enacted Nov. 1 that says industrial products will be sold to farmers only if they sell meat products to the state.

In Moscow, meanwhile, the Communist Party newspaper Pravda today published a series of letters from Soviet readers expressing what it characterised as "open alarm" about the situation in Poland.

The letters voiced concern about the threat of counter-revolution there, called on Polish authorities to rebuff Solidarity and accused the CIA of being behind Solidarity.

FBI says it warned Libyan about danger

FORT COLLINS, Colorado, Nov. 14 (A.P.) — A U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation agent has told a jury that Libyan dissident Faisal Zagallai had been warned his life was in danger months before he was shot and seriously wounded.

FBI agent Barry Sikes said yesterday that he summoned Faisal Zagallai to his office on March 28, 1980, and "conveyed the warning to him that his life was in danger. It was an official message."

Sikes' comments came in the Larimer county district court trial of Eugene Tafoya, 47, charged with attempted murder and conspiracy in the shooting.

Prosecutors contend Tafoya was hired to kill Zagallai because of his opposition to the Libya's leader, Col. Muammar Qadhafi.

Attorneys for Tafoya have said their client believed he was acting under instructions from the central intelligence agency to deliver a message to Zagallai and that he fired in self-defence.

Also yesterday, the second day of testimony, a neighbour who claimed to have witnessed the attack said Tafoya was not the man who shot Zagallai. Gregory A. Barnes said he watched a man shoot Zagallai, but said assailant was not present in the courtroom.

After Sikes testified, Larimer County District Judge J. Robert Miller told the jury that the FBI agent's comments could be used only to reconstruct Zagallai's state of mind and for no other purpose.

Gerash has maintained that Tafoya worked closely with the Central Intelligence Agency while serving with the army special units during the Vietnam and Korean wars.

Tafoya applied for work at the agency when he retired from the military in 1976, according to Gerash.

Three years later, Tafoya received a telephone call and was told to meet with two men about a possible job, Gerash said.

The CIA has denied that Tafoya was working for the agency when the shooting occurred.

Bangladeshis vote today

DACCA, Nov. 14 (R) — Bangladesh votes tomorrow to elect a successor to president Ziaur Rahman, who was assassinated in an army mutiny last May.

Although there are 30 candidates, the election is effectively a straight fight between Zia's ruling Bangladesh National Party (BNP) and the opposition Awami League.

Most diplomats and independent observers predict victory for the BNP leader, acting President Abdus Sattar, who was Zia's faithful lieutenant.

But Dr. Kamal Hossain, a British-educated lawyer and former foreign minister, is expected to make a good showing for the Awami League, which was the first party to rule Bangladesh after independence 10 years ago.

The election is crucial in that it will determine how this imp-

overished land of 95 million people will be governed.

The BNP is committed to carry on the virtual one-man rule and development policies of Zia, while there are fears that the Awami League would try to restore a one-party system like that introduced by Bangladesh's first leader, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Dr. Hossain says that since Mujib was killed in a military coup in 1975 there have been 18 attempted coups and more than 400 army officers and men have been executed.

The Awami League wants the army to stay politically neutral and has said that if it is returned to power it will try the killers of Mujib and Zia, who have never been prosecuted.

There are 38.6 million eligible voters and because a high proportion of them — about 70 per cent — are illiterate villagers they will choose their candidate by symbols.

The BNP symbol is a sheaf of rice while the Awami League is represented by a boat, appropriate in a country where many voters will have to cross wide rivers in canoes, ancient-looking sailing vessels and ferries to reach the polling booths.

Irish wife becomes bodyguard



A farmer's wife, her face masked to prevent identification, stands guard with a shotgun, as her husband drives a tractor on a farm near N. Ireland's border with Eire recently, in an area where

wives of part-time members of the security forces face increasing danger from IRA terrorists. Five members have been either killed or wounded in the past five days. (A.P. Wirephoto)

IRA shoots dead Protestant M.P., bombs attorney-general's house

BELFAST, Nov. 14 (R) — Irish guerrillas today shot dead a hardline Protestant member of the British Parliament, police said.

Robert Bradford, 41, the member for south Belfast and a veh-

ement critic of the outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA), was riddled with bullets as he held a weekly advice meeting at a community centre in South Belfast.

The caretaker of the centre was also shot dead.

The IRA claimed responsibility for the killings shortly afterwards.

Mr. Bradford, a member of the official unionists, the largest Protestant party in Northern Ireland, was the first unionist parliamentarian to be shot dead since the present sectarian violence broke out in Northern Ireland 12 years ago.

Police said the centre was crowded with children when two masked gunmen wearing overalls burst through the door. They lined everyone up and separated Mr. Bradford and the caretaker from the others before shooting them.

In London, an IRA bomb last night blasted the London home of Attorney-General Sir Michael Havers, one of the British government's senior law officers, who has reiterated a British government threat to crack down on Irish guerrillas.

But Havers, 58, was reported

abroad on business. His family was away. The anti-terrorist squad said the only casualties were three male police officers who were treated for minor injuries and a woman police officer who was treated for shock.

The IRA's "provisional" wing claimed responsibility for the blast in a brief statement issued to newspapers in the Irish capital Dublin early this morning but gave no specific motive.

The blast came within a few hours of an announcement by the government's Northern Ireland Secretary James Prior of a new crackdown on the IRA.

Mr. Prior told a news conference in Belfast: "The security forces will use the methods of the terrorist to defeat the IRA."

He also said British security forces are aiming for the "ruthless eradication" of IRA guerrillas, many of whose strongholds are in the 482 kilometres border area.

The cloak-and-dagger SAS men with their ruthless tactics are the British army units the most feared by the IRA, although informed sources said only about 100 of SAS men are in the province.

Pretoria gets nuclear plant despite ban

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Nov. 14 (A.P.) — South Africa has obtained its first nuclear power station on schedule, the country's Electricity Supply Commission (Escom) has announced.

The Escom statement did not say where it had been bought. The Escom statement said it had not come from the United States, which has refused to sell enriched uranium to South Africa.

The administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan sent a team to South Africa last month to examine South Africa's proposals for safeguards guaranteeing the enriched uranium would not be used for military purposes if the United States provided it. There had been repeated allegations that South Africa has the capability to produce a nuclear weapon, if it has not done so already.

The Escom announcement did not say how much enriched uranium had been obtained, but a Cape Town newspaper close to the government said, enough had been received to operate the plant until South Africa's own enrichment plant is completed in the mid 1980s.

Escom also said France had not provided the enriched uranium. Because France is building the station's fuel rods it was given the enriched uranium, Escom said.

Diana gets morning sickness as Charles celebrates birthday

LONDON, Nov. 14 (A.P.) — "Nobody told me about morning sickness," moaned Princess Diana in what was supposed to be a confidential aside to another mother-to-be but made headlines in the British tabloids yesterday.

The princess, who is expecting a baby in June, confided to Mrs. Janet Lukie who is expecting hers in May: "Some days I feel terrible."

The conversation between the 20-year-old princess and 35-year-old Mrs. Lukie, as overheard by reporters, went like this: Mrs. Lukie, leaning forward from the crowd: "How are you feeling?"

Princess Diana: "I'm fed up with this morning sickness. Some days I feel terrible. Nobody told me about morning sickness."

Mrs. Lukie: "It's much better after the first three months."

Princess Diana, cheering up: "Nobody told me that either. Now I can't wait until the first three months are over."

Meanwhile, Prince Charles celebrates his 33rd birthday today—"alone together" with Diana.

Chad: Who's fighting against whom, and why

By Harvey Morris

LONDON — Chad is a country that has scarcely known peace since it gained independence 21 years ago.

Now a pan-African force is headed there to try to safeguard some measure of stability by keeping the peace between a dozen rival factions jockeying for power.

The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) peace force is moving in at the urging of France, the former colonial power, to replace Libyan forces which have stationed in Chad for the past year.

The French, who have also played a significant interventionist role since independence, feared Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi might use their presence of the troops to enforce an unwanted merger on the fragile government of President Goukouni Oueddei.

Having welcomed the Libyans as allies in its struggle against Sudanese-backed rebels commanded by a former prime minister and defence minister, Hissene Habre, the Goukouni government decided in September that it wanted the Libyans out.

True to his promise that they would quit when they were no longer needed, Col. Qadhafi ordered his troops out. Correspondents in N'djamena, the capital of Chad, reported a big airlift was under way this week.

Libya has maintained a total information blackout on the pullout, but Western diplomats speculate that Col. Qadhafi is eager to prove his good faith before assuming his role as chairman of the OAU next year.

Black Africa, despite its fears of southwards expansion by Libya, has been slow to dispatch its peacekeeping force, first mooted at an OAU meeting in October last year.

The force will consist of some 5,000 troops from Nigeria, Benin, Senegal, Togo, Guinea and Zaire with logistical support from Gabon and France. It will have an initial mandate of six months.

The Africans will find a country shattered by a decade and a half of

almost uninterrupted civil war. Chad, three times the size of France but with a population of only 4.5 million, is one of the poorest countries in the world.

Created from the eastern territory of the vast colony of French Equatorial Africa, Chad straddles the invisible line between Arab and Black African states.

Conflict between the nomadic Arabs of the north and the settled black Christian and animist population of the south was at the root of a long guerrilla war that began in 1966.

The Arab north, resenting the relative wealth of the south and its hold on government, launched a campaign for equality that was to end southern supremacy.

Francois Tombalbaye was president from 1960 to 1975, when he was assassinated. He was replaced by Gen. Felix Malloum, a southern Christian.

Gen. Malloum was forced to step down in 1979 when the struggle was in its 13th year and was replaced by Mr. Goukouni, a Muslim.

His victory was not to bring peace. The Muslim rebel forces had been fragmenting almost from the start of their struggle in 1966.

The south has effectively opted out of the power struggle and for the past two years, the war has been between former allies in the Muslim cause.

The south enjoys the benefits of French investment and is the centre of the cotton industry which provides 75 per cent of Chad's export earnings. It is now largely self-governing.

The main protagonists in the inter-Muslim struggle are President Goukouni, former commander of the National Liberation Front (Frolinat), and Mr. Habre, a former rebel who threw in his lot with the Malloum government and then tried to overthrow the Christian president in 1979.

Mr. Habre gained international notoriety while still a rebel leader for spearheading the three-year abduction of French archaeologist Francoise Claustre. She was held as a protest at France's alleged interference in his country's affairs.

With Libya backing Mr. Goukouni and Sudan and Egypt backing Mr. Habre, Chad became the battlefield of a wider ideological conflict dividing North Africa.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

VOA chief stands by controversial aide

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14 (A.P.) — James B. Conkling, director of the Voice of America, has declared that he was standing by his appointment of an official who had urged turning VOA into a "propaganda agency." Mr. Conkling's statement came in the face of mounting criticism on Capitol Hill and among the VOA chief's own staff to a memorandum written by Philip Nicolaidis before he was named as a deputy programming director for the U.S. overseas broadcasting service. The chairman of a key house subcommittee called the memo "ideological overkill" and said implementing Mr. Nicolaidis' proposals "would destroy the credibility of VOA."

Mozambique port sabotaged by rebels

LISBON, Nov. 14 (R) — Eight buoys marking the harbour entrance channel at Mozambique's railhead port of Beira were sabotaged yesterday hampering shipping movement, the official Mozambique news agency reported. The buoys were destroyed in a skillful operation apparently carried out by a highly trained military commando unit of Mozambique National Resistance (RNM) anti-government guerrillas, the agency said. Two weeks ago the RNM blew up strategic road and rail bridges over the River Pungue, about 50 kilometres north of Beira linking the port with landlocked Zimbabwe. An oil pipeline from Beira to the Umtali refinery in Zimbabwe, which is due to reopen next year, was also damaged in the earlier attack.

Space trips boring, ex-astronaut says

NASHVILLE, Tennessee, Nov. 14 (A.P.) — Wally Schirra, one of America's seven original astronauts, says he is glad to be resting comfortably on Earth instead of orbiting the planet aboard the space shuttle Columbia. "I'm grateful I'm not there, mostly because sitting out there ... can become boring as hell," he said yesterday. "Mostly it's lousy out there." Schirra said. "It's a hostile environment and it's trying to kill you. The outside temperature goes from a minus 450 degrees to a plus 300 degrees. You sit in a flying thermos bottle." Schirra, 58, was one of the original astronauts of the U.S. space programme in the 1960s and the only one to serve as command pilot in three major NASA space efforts — Mercury, Gemini and Apollo. He logged 295 hours and 154 minutes in space.

Estonians urge Soviet general strike

STOCKHOLM, Nov. 14 (A.P.) — Estonian dissident sources in Sweden said yesterday that a leaflet being distributed in the Soviet Union urges a half-hour nationwide general strike from 10-10:30 a.m. Dec. 1, in a demand for democracy and action against economic ills. The sources said they had no indication of how widespread the leaflet's distribution was. They said it presented a list of demands to the Soviet government. Some isolated strikes have been reported in Estonia the past year, and there were massive youth protests in some Estonian cities in the fall of 1980. The Moscow correspondent of a Swedish national daily newspaper said in a Tallinn-dated report yesterday that the pamphlet was "the talk of the town" in the Estonian capital.

Hinckley trial postponed till Jan. 4

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14 (A.P.) — A federal judge has postponed the trial of accused presidential assassin John W. Hinckley Jr. from Nov. 30 to Jan. 4. U.S. District Judge Barrington D. Parker, in a brief hearing, said the holiday plans of many people, including prospective jurors, have been set and added the postponement "would be the most appropriate thing to do."

Landlord loses case against church

TWYFORD, England, (A.P.) — The church clock bells in this Buckinghamshire village were found innocent if causing a nuisance yesterday and went on chiming the quarters, half-hours and hours. Colin Thomson, landlord of the 15th-century Red Lion pub 45metres from the Anglican Church of St. Mary's, complained the bells kept him awake nights. He took the parish council, the rector and the churchwardens to law and asked for the clock to be silenced between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m. But after a week of testimony in a packed village hall and hearing the clock chime "day and night," County Court Judge David Fearn dismissed the complaint.

Ogaden rebels claim 215 enemies killed

MOGADISHU, Nov. 14 (R) — Somali-backed guerrillas fighting Ethiopian rule of the disputed Ogaden region said today they had killed 215 Ethiopian soldiers in battles between Sept. 22 and Nov. 8. A spokesman for the Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) said most of the fighting had taken place between the towns of Jigjiga and Harar, with smaller engagements around the villages of Deghehabur and aware. The spokesman listed WSLF casualties as 22 killed and 35 wounded.

